

# Reentry Council Meeting Minutes November 21, 2014

## ➤ **Planning Committee:**

Janice Roach reported the Town Hall meeting held on 11/18/14 was successful. There were 141 in attendance. She thanked the Planning Committee members.

## ➤ **Employment Committee:**

Mike Paris gave an update on the Employment Committee activities.

## ➤ **Faith Based and Community Initiatives:**

Members of the Norfolk Reentry Council conducted Outreach in the community by passing out flyers for the Reentry Town Hall Meeting to several churches.

## **Presentation:**

### **Oxford House**

Lynn Williams gave an overview of the outreach services provided by the Oxford House. They are worldwide and have houses in Chesapeake, Va. Beach, Hampton, and Richmond. The household members share expenses rent & utilities. They have to be working or attending school. There is a \$100 non-refundable fee. Homes are for same sex (all male or female). [www.oxfordhouse.org](http://www.oxfordhouse.org)

## **Program Updates:**

### **Child Support Enforcement**

Joy Sullivan stated there was a Fatherhood Initiative Workshop at Norfolk State University today and Lee Williams was a participant. She reminded the Council she had literature (flyers, pamphlets, brochures, etc.) for Selective Services Registry. Males 18 and older must register.

### **DHS Programs**

#### ➤ **Family and Community Integration**

Madonna Flores gave an update on the Family and Community Reintegration services. She has open office hours on Mondays 1 p.m. -3 p.m. WDC Room 303 to meet with any client. She talked about Thinking 4 a Change (T4C); GROW Initiative, Women Peer Support, Peer Support, and Family Peer Support. She distributed flyers to members present about all of the programs.

#### ➤ **Mentoring Program**

Janice Roach gave an update about the Mentoring Program. She needs more mentors. The next training will be held on 12/9/14 at WDC Room 208 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

➤ **SNAPET Update**

Janice Roach gave an update about SNAPET and 20 slots available for upcoming Culinary Arts training at Tidewater Community College January 2015. A CDL training class will be offered at the TCC Portsmouth campus in March 2015.

- Thinking for a Change (T4C) - Prisoner Reentry T.E.A.M. will begin facilitating T4C at the Norfolk City Jail in January. Preferably to Docket participants who will be released after May of 2015 in order to complete the entire class.

**Institutions**

- Indian Creek Corr. Center- Thanked everyone who participated in their recent Resource Fair. They offer OHSA Forklift Operator Enterprise Training.
- Sussex I & II- the GED program issues have been resolved. Computer Software class is offered. GED cost \$170.
- Greenville-There is a need for speakers to come to their facility to speak the groups. They had speakers Alonzo George and Jerome Reid at a recent event.

**Probation and Parole**

- Kesi Simmons gave an update. There are 51 Drug Court participants, 38 Mental Health Court participants, and 23 Re-Entry Docket participants. The next Re-Entry Court graduation is 12/17/14 @ 2 p.m. The next Thinking for a Change (T4C) cycle starts 2/5/15 at Norfolk PP.

**Veterans**

- Housing is available for homeless veterans @877-424-3838. There is help available for veterans with other than honorable discharge if they have more than 1 tour of duty (honorable discharge). Contact Lillie Adams @ 344-8787 for information linking to local services.

**Newport News Sheriff's Office**

- The next meeting Newport News Reentry Council is 12/17/14 @ 12 p.m. Please RSVP due to lunch being provided.

### **Kim Brown**

- St. Mary's Catholic Church is hosting the NEST program (homeless) this week. Anthony Burfoot was distributing free turkeys on 11/22/14 @ Booker T. Washington High School. More information please contact Kim Brown 477-9301. NEST Program contact information 622-2549. HART contact information 622-5920.

### **Opportunity Inc.**

- Is currently out of Training funding. Willard Smith is the contact for Homeless Veteran Housing 757-306-1000.

### **Alcoholic Anonymous**

- Terri Neveu gave an update about their services and distributed flyers.

### **Next meeting**

During the meeting it was said that the next meeting would be on Friday, January 16, 2015. After the meeting it was discussed that Friday, January 16, 2015 was a State Holiday, therefore the next Reentry Council meeting will take place on **Friday, January 23, 2015.**

**\*\*\*The next Reentry Council meeting is Friday, January 23, 2015\*\*\***

Meeting Adjourned 10:05 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Sheila London